30th October 1931]

Chillies.—A copy [a] of a letter from the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, dated 15th July 1931, and its enclosure is attached.

Tobacco leaf and jaggery.—A statement [b] showing the wholesale prices of tobacco leaf and jaggery in Madras City for each fortnight of faslis 1336—1340 is attached.

Forest Panchayats

Protest against the enhancement of grazing fees in Forest Panchayats.

* 256 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the ryots of Kudligi in meeting assembled have sent a representation protesting against the enhancement of grazing fees in Forest Panchayats to 6 annas per cow unit and praying for the removal of the ban on grazing in panchayat areas during the months of May and June and if so, how the representation has been disposed of?

A.—The Government have received a copy of the resolutions passed at a meeting of the ryots of the Kudligi taluk held in July last. One of the resolutions relates to the subject mentioned by the Honourable Member. No action was taken on the resolution itself, but the question of grazing fees is under enquiry in another connexion. Under paragraph 6 (*a*) (iii) of the Standing Order on Forest Panchayats the period of closure of forests to grazing is fixed in consultation with the panchayats.

Diwan Bahadur M. Gopalaswami Mudaliyar:—"May I ask whether there was any consultation with the forest panchayats before the rates were enhanced? There is a feeling, Sir, that this enhancement works very hard."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—"I have have no information whether the enhancement works very hard."

Fees for grazing permits issued to the villagers of Gadiganur, Hospet taluk.

* 257 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the scale of fees at which the villagers of Gadiganur, Hospet taluk, Bellary district, have to take out licences for grazing their sheep and cattle in the panchayat forest and whether it differs from the scale in force in the neighbouring villages of Tornagal, Papinayakanahalli, and, if so, to what extent and why; and

(*b*) the number of cow units up to which the Gadiganur Forest Panchayat was allowed to issue permits in the previous years and the number to which they have been restricted now, and if the number has been reduced, why?

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a Printed as Appendix V on pages 139-141 infra.